

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINGAP 02536 070957Z  
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 EUR-12 HEW-04 AID-05

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 /072 W

-----093586 072331Z /61

R 070900Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 426

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SINGAPORE 2536

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: SINGAPORE CONCERN OVER INCREASING NUMBER OF REFUGEES

1. FOR SOME TIME WE HAVE BEEN WONDERING WHEN SINGAPORE AUTHORITIES WOULD BEGIN EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER RAPIDLY INCREASING NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES BEING HANDED HERE FROM VESSELS PICKING THEM UP IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA. THAT TIME SEEMS TO HAVE COME.

2. LATEST GROUP OF REFUGEES TO ARRIVE WAS A PARTY OF 45 LANDED ON JUNE 6 FROM A NORWEGIAN TANKER. REFUGEES ARE BEING HOUSED BY UNHCR AND NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT HAS EXTENDED AN UNDERTAKING THAT ALL 45 WILL BE ACCEPTED BY NORWAY IF NO OTHER COUNTRY DOES SO. THIS ARRIVAL BRINGS TOTAL NUMBER OF REFUGEES NOW IN SINGAPORE AWAITING ONWARD MOVEMENT TO 456, A FIGURE THAT WE NOTE FROM THE WEEKLY REPORT EXCEEDS THE NUMBER CURRENTLY IN HONG KONG.

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3. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THE SINGAPORE IMMIGRATION OFFICIAL DIRECTLY IN CHARGE OF PROCESSING INCOMING REFUGEES TOOK THE OCCASION OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE NORWEGIAN VESSEL TO EXPRESS HIS GROWING CONCERN OVER THE NUMBER OF REFUGEES FLOWING INTO THE COUNTRY AND THE INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TASK OF FINDING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR THEM. ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT SUGGEST THAT ANY

CHANGE IN SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT POLICY TOWARD THE REFUGEES IS  
IMMINENT, HIS REMARKS INDICATE THAT THE GOS MAY BE GETTING  
UNEASY OVER THE CONSTANT INCREASE IN NUMBERS.  
HOLDRIDGE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978SINGAP02536  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 2452992  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014